

MILLER FRANCIS.

[ To accompany bill H. R. No. 656. ]

MARCH 13, 1838.

Mr. McCLELLAN, of New York, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom were referred the petition and papers of Miller Francis, report :*

That petitioner resides at Nashville, in the State of Tennessee ; that he was second lieutenant in the militia of the State of Tennessee, in the war with the Creek Indians, in the year 1813, in Captain James Preston's company, in the regiment under the command of Colonel John Brown, and division commanded by General John Cocke. The petitioner states that while the army was stationed at Fort Armstrong, on Coosa river, in December, 1813, he and others were directed by their superior officers to cross the river Coosa, and make an excursion into the Creek country, to collect provisions and reconnoitre the movements of the enemy ; that while upon the line, and in the discharge of this duty, he jumped across a deep branch, and in the jump dislocated his right knee joint, and ruptured the lower part of the abdomen, producing double inguinal hernia ; under which disabilities he has ever since suffered. The case is satisfactorily proved by John Cocke, the major general in command of the Tennessee militia on duty in the Creek country, and by the certificates of Lieutenant John Rice and Colonel James Standifer, of the State of Tennessee.

Doctor Thomas R. Jennings details at length his examinations of petitioner ; that the violent leap across a ravine is sufficient to produce a dislocation of the knee joint and the rupture of the abdomen, producing double inguinal hernia, with both of which the petitioner is afflicted, and has been ever since the disability first occurred. He certifies that, from the relaxed state of the muscles and ligaments about the knee joint, it is subject to frequent displacement. His disability appears, from the statement of Doctor Jennings, to be total. The petitioner asks for a pension from the time of the disability ; but as no reasons are assigned why an application was not made before, the committee are of opinion that the petitioner is entitled to a pension commencing from and after the 1st of January, 1837.

Thomas Allen, print.